

## The Times' Daily Short Story.

## Jenetta's Fortune

(Original.)

In a shabby furnished parlor sat Jenetta Macomber, aged nineteen, and her lover, Leon Wynne, ten years her senior.

"When you went to the lawyer who advertised for you, what did he say?"

"He asked me if I was Jenetta Macomber. I told him yes. Did my father go away when I was a baby? Yes. My mother's name? Caroline Swann. Then he told me that a fortune awaited me in California."

"Leon shook his head. 'There's some game in the wind,' he said. 'Well, good night. I'll see you before you go.' The next day Leon Wynne called upon Martin Cahoon, the lawyer who had advertised for Jenetta. He found a shrewd looking man, indeed one whom Leon saw at a glance would have no mercy in money matters."

"I have noticed," said the young man, "that you have advertised for Jenetta Macomber, sole heir to the estate of Andrew Macomber."

"I have," said the lawyer, bringing a pair of piercing eyes to bear on Leon. "I am Andrew Macomber's only child. This Jenetta Macomber comes from another branch of the family. She is my cousin."

"Can you substantiate that?"

"I can."

Cahoon looked incredulous.

"See here," said Leon. "There's no use in you and me trying to fool each other. This girl is under my influence, and I can do what I like with her. You evidently know something about this fortune, if it exists, and I need your services. I have no money to prosecute the claim, either for expenses or court or lawyer's fees. What do you say to taking my case on shares? I'll give you half."

There was a look of cunning in the lawyer's eyes as he replied:

"If you are the sole heir and can establish the fact, of course I shall be happy to serve you."

"Very well. I will show you that I can do what I say. I'll see you to-morrow."

Leon went directly to Jenetta and told her the whole story. Then he drew up a paper confirming his claim to the property, and she signed it. The next day Leon took the paper to the lawyer. Cahoon looked at it, astonished. Then a crafty smile passed over his face.

"Well," said the client, "are you satisfied that you can trust me?"

"It's risky," replied the lawyer.

"Not half the risk of trying to work it through the girl, especially as I'm on to your game."

There was a good deal of sparring, at the end of which Leon left the office commissioned to go to Rio de Janeiro to endeavor to get possession of the fortune left by Andrew Macomber. It

was plain that Cahoon had intended to send Jenetta to California to get her out of the way while he was working a scheme to secure possession of her inheritance in her name. This bit of luck in her relinquishment of her claim in favor of Leon Wynne put a new face on the matter and rendered the job far easier. Leon signed a paper agreeing, in lieu of advanced expenses, counsel fees, etc., to give Cahoon one-half the estate when obtained. When he left the office it was with a check for \$500 with which to pay his way and living for a time at Rio. He went immediately to Jenetta.

"We must be married at once," he said, "and secretly."

"Why so?" she asked, astonished.

"Your father, so Cahoon says, has really died in Rio possessed of a fortune, and you are the only heir."

"In Rio?"

"Yes. Using the paper I asked you to sign, I have succeeded in unearthing the truth. I have agreed to give Cahoon one-half of the fortune if I get it. But, you see, sweetheart, I don't want it. It would be better for us to get it in your name and without this tremendous inheritance tax Cahoon has levied on me."

"But why are we to be married in such a hurry?"

"I have agreed to go at once and collect your fortune. I prefer to have your company, especially as you are the legal heir. As to the secrecy, notwithstanding that I hold the winning cards I don't dare to let Cahoon know that I have duped him. There's no knowing how he might trick us yet."

"When does the steamer leave?"

"In an hour. I may be watched by Cahoon or his spies to see if I sail on her, and I must not disappoint them, nor must it be known that you go with me. Once out on the ocean it will make no difference, but you must go to the ship without me, and it would be safer to go disguised. On second thought it may be dangerous for us to attempt a marriage. We'd better be married aboard the ship."

"But supposing there is no clergyman?"

"In that case we'll have to wait till we reach Rio."

Just before the steamer sailed Leon Wynne went aboard. He had been preceded by an old woman whom he kept in sight till the ship moved off. Among the faces on the dock Leon recognized Cahoon. Taking a pair of green spectacles and a wig from the old woman beside him, Leon revealed a young girl's face.

"Mr. Cahoon," he called, "let me introduce Miss Macomber."

The next moment Cahoon had disappeared in the crowd.

Fortunately the runaways found a clergyman on board to tie the knot, and on reaching Rio they found the story of the fortune to be correct and in due time secured it. When they returned Cahoon had removed his law offices to some place unknown.

CHARLOTTE ATWOOD BARBOUR.

## THE SMOOT INVESTIGATION

Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections Meets Saturday.

IMMENSE MASS OF PETITIONS

Citizens of Forty States Have Presented Against Seating Utah Senator—Wood Inquiry Continued.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The session of the senate lasted only thirty-seven minutes. After the completion of the routine business the Cuban bill was laid before the senate, but no one appeared ready to speak on it. Mr. Hale then moved an adjournment, and the motion prevailed.

Previous to the adjournment a number of bills were introduced and reports presented, and Mr. Hoar gave notice that as soon as practicable after the disposition of the Cuban bill he would call up his resolution requesting information from the president concerning the conditions under which the independence of Panama was recognized.

Chairman Burrows of the senate committee on privileges and elections has called a meeting of the committee for Saturday at 11 o'clock to consider whether any action shall be taken on the protests and petitions for the expulsion of Senator Reed Smoot of Utah. There is an immense mass of petitions, coming from forty different states.

Thorough Investigation.

That a thorough investigation of the subject will be made by the committee now appears to be beyond doubt. By those who are pressing the investigation it is said it will be more comprehensive and searching than any similar inquiry has ever been. An effort will be made to ascertain accurately the attitude of the Mormon church toward the government of the United States and to learn whether or not a member of that organization is bound by any pledge or oath the taking of which is incompatible with his oath as a senator of the United States.

It is believed by some at least of those who are opposing Senator Smoot that any effort made to prove he is a polygamist would result in failure, and while that point cannot be said to have been abandoned absolutely it is quite certain the opposition will concentrate its endeavors to prove that the position he holds in the Mormon church is incompatible with the oath of allegiance he has taken to the United States. That proof must be ample, in the opinion of senators, before he can be unseated. As to the ability of the opposition to Senator Smoot to establish such a proposition there is a wide divergence of opinion among senators, but there is a pretty general agreement that if it should be established its result would be the unseating of the Utah senator.

Wood and Bellairs Again.

The senate committee on military affairs recalled Colonel Charles S. Diehl, assistant general manager of the Associated Press, who submitted letters to verify data concerning the request of General Wood for the retention of B. G. Bellairs as correspondent of the Associated Press at Havana.

Colonel Diehl said that Bellairs had gone to Cuba in July, 1901. In September the Associated Press received information reflecting upon Bellairs, and he was called to return to America. In October General Wood called at the office of the Associated Press and made a statement that in his judgment the reports about Bellairs were unfounded. Bellairs was then called to remain, but subsequently when additional information concerning him was received he was dismissed.

When the house convened, Mr. Van Voorhis (O.), for the committee on appropriations, reported the pension appropriation bill. In reply to Mr. Payne, he said it was the purpose of the committee to have full debate on the bill. It carries a total of \$138,150,100, which is \$2,500 less than the estimates submitted. The bill carries \$1,097,500 less than was appropriated for pensions last year.

Mr. Lamar (Dem., Fla.), rising to a question of privilege, after announcing that he would offer a resolution in which would be embodied a joint resolution of the Florida legislature, said:

"In pursuance of that joint resolution, I desire to impeach Charles Swayne, judge of the United States district court for the northern district of Florida, with high crimes and misdemeanors."

The Lamar resolution authorizes the judiciary committee to send for persons and papers and to do other things essential to the investigation of the charges against Judge Swayne.

The resolution was adopted.

Countess Russell Gets Divorce.

London, Dec. 11.—Half an hour's hearing in the divorce court sufficed to secure for Countess Mabel Russell, who sued her husband, William Brown, a former coachman, for divorce, a decree nisi. The countess testified to the cruelty and misconduct of Brown, who married her in December, 1902, under the title of Prince Aphrodisia Stuart de Nodena, alleging he was a Bavarian nobleman.

A Five Million Dollar Trust.

Pittsburg, Dec. 11.—A merger of the electric lighting and power plants in the coke regions and the Pittsburg McKeesport and Connellsville railway system has been effected, and an application for a charter for the combined interests will be made at Harrisburg Dec. 31. It is said the capitalization will be considerably over \$5,000,000.

## HISTORIC COMFORTABLE.

Tradition That an American Spy Once Hid in Its Folds.

An old fashioned comfortable which has done duty in one family for 135 years and has had a remarkable history since the time it sheltered a Revolutionary spy in the winter of 1778 was recently sent to David Read of Anita, Ia., by his sister, Mrs. Jesse Bily of Little Washington, N. J., says a Morristown (N. J.) dispatch to the New York Times.

The Read family lived on Schooley's mountain in Revolutionary times, and it was there that the comfortable was made. There is a tradition in the family that in the winter of 1778 a strange man in the uniform of a British officer walked into the house late one night. Only the women folk were at home. They were badly frightened until the stranger opened his red coat and showed the Revolutionary uniform underneath.

He said he was an American spy and was being closely pursued by the British, from whose camp near Blawenburg he had just fled with valuable information which he was carrying to General Washington at Morristown.

The women could think of no place in the house in which he would be safe, but he walked into an adjoining room and, seeing a pile of bedding, grasped the comfortable in question and, lying down, proceeded to roll himself up in it and against the side of the room. The women grasped the situation and rolled three or four other comfortable in the same fashion and piled them on top of him.

A few minutes later the British came into the house and began a search of the premises. They merely glanced at the bedding and then made their way upstairs. While they were searching upstairs the spy crawled out of the comfortable and then through a window. Then, stampeding the horses, he took the best one and was off at a fast gallop for Morristown before his pursuers knew what had happened.

## DURAND AS A HUNTER.

British Ambassador's Exploit in an Indian Jungle.

It is said in London that Sir Mortimer Durand, the negotiator of the "Durand agreement" with the astute Abdur Rahman, khan of Kabul, for six years British minister at the court of the shah, for more than three years ambassador at Madrid and now the new British ambassador to Washington, is prouder of his success as a sportsman than as a diplomat, says the New York American.

It is intimated that he took with him to Washington many of his Indian shooting trophies. Chief among these are an enormous skin and head of a Bengal tiger, the story of whose death he often tells. As the jungle was too thick for elephants to be used, Sir Mortimer was armed with both an Empress rifle and an eight bore. The latter weapon he had never used, and when the tiger came on he expected to have dropped him dead by the steady aim he took with it.

But the brute rushed on for thirty yards at full gallop, and Sir Mortimer thought he had missed him. From his coil of vantage in the fork of a tree he fired with the Empress rifle into the brute's back, and this time he fell. When the tiger was skinned, it was found that the eight bore bullet had raked it from the chest to the end of its body. It was evidently well endowed with the feline capacity for surviving.

## DRILLING A MARINE.

How a Recruit Tried to Profit by Admiral Rodgers' Lesson.

A little story involving Rear Admiral Rodgers, the commandant of the Brooklyn navy yard, and a very raw marine recruit came out recently when Colonel Spicer called the green marine before him to be lectured, says the New York Times.

Admiral Rodgers and Captain Perry, the captain of the yard, were making a tour of inspection when they passed the marine doing sentry duty, who failed to salute them.

"Don't you know enough to salute when an officer passes you?" asked the admiral, going back.

"Gee!" exclaimed the new marine in a tone of most uncomplimentary astonishment. "Are youse fellers officers?"

The admiral ordered him to present arms, and the man nearly fell over himself in his awkward efforts to obey the command.

"Here, let me have your gun." And, taking the piece, the admiral showed the man how to present arms gracefully and properly.

"Now," said the commandant, handing back the gun, "let me caution you that a sentry must not under any circumstances ever give up his arm."

"I seem to be putting my foot in it for fair," said the green marine, looking discouraged.

An hour later the admiral and the captain chanced to pass the same sentry again. This time he presented arms with a flourish that almost knocked his head off.

"Hey, did I do it all right that time?" he yelled after the admiral, seeming to feel hurt when he received no answer from the dignified commandant.

Pie in New York.

In New York at all seasons except winter apple pie is king. In autumn and early winter pumpkin is a strong second, and in cold weather mince is almost neck and neck with apple. There is always a good demand for custard, coconut and lemon meringue pies, and in summer berry pies are favorites.

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## MORE INDIGESTION.

"Ninety-five times out of a hundred," said the Romoc man, "you can attribute fainting fits, vertigo, heart palpitation, and all such disagreeable feeling to indigestion." "Ninety-nine times out of a hundred you may be sure that these same disagreeable symptoms and the trouble that causes them can be rectified by the use of Romoc." "Romoc is the greatest of Nature's remedies. It strengthens the stomach and enables it to digest the food that is eaten. It produces a healthy, natural appetite."

"Romoc dispels all poisonous secretions from the body by strengthening those organs whose duty it is to get rid of such injurious substances. If you are distressed by any of the troubles which I have mentioned, wish you would try Romoc. It will do you more good than any drug you ever heard of. When it comes to using medicines containing alcohol there is no comparison. Romoc does not contain a drop of those poisons. The way in which Romoc is sold, on a guaranty, proves the very high regard in which it is held."



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## INDORSEMENT OF SLANG

The Kind a Harvard Educator Approves Of.

LIKES GLAD HAND, MARBLE HEART

These Expressions Professor Frederick Manley Regards as Strong and Poetical—Suggests a Change in Story of Prodigal Son—"Peach With Dew on It," Used in Describing a Pretty Girl, He Calls Beautiful.

Aptly applied, some modern slang words and phrases "go," says Professor Frederick Manley of Harvard university.

The right of children to use such expressions was the subject of a talk by Mr. Manley before the Essex County Teachers' institute in Newark, N. J., the other day, says the New York American. He said in qualification of his remarks that he did not want to be understood as indorsing the use of slang, but declared that some expressions should be leniently considered by teachers in instructing the young.

In support of his theory Professor Manley referred to slang expressions that he typified as beautiful, poetic and effective. He said he once heard a boy who was being oppressed by a dull lecture remark:

"Gee! If I don't get out of here I'll get bats in me belly."

He thought this was severely critical and definite.

The slang expression glad hand and marble heart Mr. Manley said were to him strong and poetical. He believed that if the story of the "prodigal son" had stated that the world gave him the "glad hand" and his father gave him the "marble heart" on his return professors of literature would now be expatiating on the beautiful simplicity of these expressions and referring to them as literature that is not made nowadays.

"A peach with dew on it?"

"Isn't that beautiful?" asked the speaker. "Yet it is the slangy way in which I once heard a boy describe a girl who had the bloom of May on her cheeks."

Mr. Manley pleaded that children might be taught the close relations between literature and life and to regard the language masterpieces not as

so many lines to be studied, but as beautiful expressions describing the phases of life.

## FARMER-LAWYER'S SPEECH.

Makes a Jury Laugh by His Remarks on Courtship.

Sanford Freeman, a sixty-five-year-old farmer of Cass county, Mo., being a widower, advertised for a wife. A Mrs. Mason answered it, and they became engaged. Later there was trouble, and she sued for \$25,000 for breach of promise, says a Kansas City dispatch.

Freeman had told the woman that he had \$2,000 in cash and a farm of 100 acres in Cass county, but in court, where he acted as his own lawyer, he admitted that this was untrue. On the witness stand he said, "The place for women and dogs and cats is at home."

While making his speech to the jury he stood with his overcoat on. He has a grizzled mustache and a "country-fied" manner. He delivered himself of this quaint philosophy about women:

"If a woman has money it smooths over all her defects and failures. A woman may have a hip knocked down or two or three splint knots and spavins, but if she's got the money she looks as clean cut as a young colt. When I thought this woman had \$15,000 I told her I could come as near loving her to death as any man living, but when I found she had no money she didn't look right to me."

"As for lying to her, I excuse that on the ground that when a man wants to marry he's bound to make things look as favorable as possible. That's natural. All things is fair in courtship and honest trading. People that know me think I'm a pretty tolerable good man."

The jury laughed heartily all through Freeman's speech.

## Congress' New "Gumshoe" Statesman

Another "gumshoe" statesman broke into congress recently, says the New York World. He is Dr. Godfrey Hunter of Kentucky, who was sworn in the other morning. Hunter's friends in the south call him "Gumshoe Godfrey," just as the friends of Senator Stone of Missouri call him "Gumshoe Bill." They sent Hunter some flowers and tied a pair of small rubber boots and a pair of goloshes on the stems of the chrysanthemums.

## A Postmaster Appointed.

Washington, Dec. 12.—A. Mary Abbott has been appointed fourth class postmaster at New Eagle, Pa.

## A DOMINANT TWENTY-FOUR

Commercial and Financial Power Wielded by Steel Trust Directors.

One-twelfth of the estimated wealth of the United States is represented at the meeting of the board of directors of the United States Steel corporation when they are all present. The twenty-four directors are:

John D. Rockefeller, J. Pierpont Morgan, Marshall Field, H. H. Rogers, E. H. Gary, George W. Perkins, W. H. Moore, Norman B. Ream, Henry C. Frick, Charles M. Schwab, W. E. Corey, C. A. Griscom, P. H. Peabody, Daniel G. Reid, Charles Steele, J. D. Rockefeller, Jr., P. A. B. Widener, Alfred Clifford, James H. Reid, Robert Bacon, William Edenborn, Nathaniel Thayer, E. C. Converse, James Gayley.

They represent as influential directors more than 200 other companies. These companies operate nearly one-half of the railroad mileage of the United States. They are the great miners and carriers of coal. Among these companies are such industrial trusts as the Standard Oil, the Amalgamated Copper, the International Harvester, the Pullman, the General Electric, the International Mercantile Marine, the United States Realty and Construction and the American Linseed. The leading telegraph system, the traction lines of New York, of Philadelphia, of Pittsburgh, of Buffalo, of Chicago and of Milwaukee and one of the principal express companies are represented in the board. This group includes also directors of five insurance companies, two of which have assets of \$700,000,000. In the steel board are men who speak for five banks and ten trust companies in New York city, including the First National, the National City and the Bank of Commerce, the three greatest banks in the country and the head of important chains of financial institutions; for two banks and three trust companies in Philadelphia, for two banks and two trust companies in Chicago, for one bank and two trust companies in Boston and for one bank and one trust company in Pittsburg, besides banking institutions in smaller cities. Telephone, electric, real estate, cable and publishing companies are represented there, and our greatest merchant sits at the board table.—Serenio S. Pratt in World's Work for December.

## A UNIQUE LETTER.

Indignant Constituent's Denunciation of an Australian Legislator.

A member of parliament in Australia recently received from an indignant constituent who had asked him in vain for a "billie" (a job in politics) the following unique letter, says the New York World:

"Dear Sir—You're a darn fraud, and you know it. I don't care a rap for the billie or for the money either, but you could have got it for me if you wasn't as mean as mink. Two pounds a week ain't any more to me than 40 shillin's is to you, but I object to bein' made an infernal fool of. Soon as you was elected by my hard working friends a feller wanted to bet me that you wouldn't be in the house more'n a week before you made a ass of yourself. I bet him a Cow on that as I thought you was worth it then. After I got your note sayin' you declined to act in the matter I drove the Cow over to the Feller's place and told him he had won her. That's all I got by howlin' meself horse for you on election day and months before. You not only hurt a man's Pride, but you injure him in business. I believe you think you'll get in again. I don't. And what I don't think is of more consequence than you imaginin'. I believe you take a pleishir in cuttin' your best friends, but wate till the clouds roll by, and they'll cut you—just behind the Ear, where the butcher cuts the pig. Ture no man; yure only a tute. I lowers meself ridin' to a skunk, even tho I med him a member of Parliament."

## FIRE IN PITTSBURG.

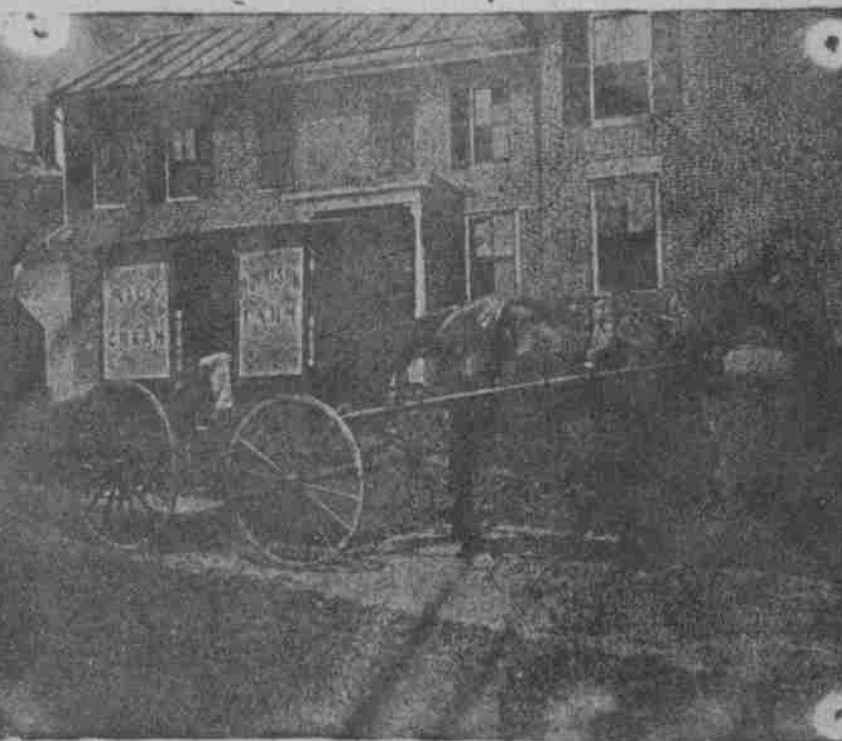
Seven Persons Severely Burned—Others Injured.

Pittsburg, Dec. 12.—Seven persons were seriously burned and a number of others sustained slight injuries in a fire at Armstrong's cork factory on Twenty-third street. One man is missing.

Those seriously burned were George Friel, James Keenan, Andrew Kerr, Thomas Fitzgerald, William Rockford and Thomas Haiman.

The fire started in the grinding room on the second floor and gained such rapid headway that many of the 600 employees narrowly escaped from the building with their lives. Over 100 girls were carried by the police and firemen from the second floor by means of ladders.

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